

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
20 October 2005 (20.10.2005)

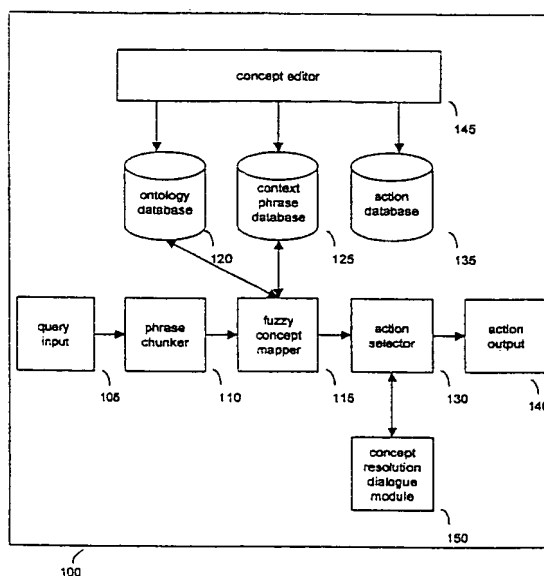
PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2005/098669 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **G06F 17/30** (74) Agent: LAU, Chi-Fai; BT Group Legal, Intellectual Property Department, PP: C5A, BT Centre, 81 Newgate Street, London, Greater London EC1A 7AJ (GB).
- (21) International Application Number:
PCT/GB2005/000937
- (22) International Filing Date: 10 March 2005 (10.03.2005) (81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
0407816.8 6 April 2004 (06.04.2004) GB
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **BRITISH TELECOMMUNICATIONS PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY** [GB/GB]; 81 Newgate Street, Greater London, LONDON EC1A 7AJ (GB).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **CASE, Simon, James** [GB/GB]; 2 Clyde Mews, Redland Bristol BS6 6QW (GB). **DUCATEL, Gery, Michael** [FR/GB]; 40 Cecil Road, Ipswich Suffolk IP1 3NW (GB). **CUI, Zhan** [CN/GB]; 7 Squirrels Field, Colchester Essex CO4 5YA (GB).
- (84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: INFORMATION RETRIEVAL



(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus are provided for accessing a relevant information resource in response to a user query. An ontology is provided, defining relationships between a plurality of predefined concepts, and between each of the predefined concepts and one or more predefined context phrases. On receipt of a user query, portions of the received query are compared with the context phrases to identify one or more matching phrases and hence, from the predefined relationships with concepts in the ontology, one or more relevant concepts. Concepts identified in respect of the received user query are used to identify a relevant action using predefined relationships between concepts in the ontology and predefined actions, wherein an action comprises providing access to an information resource.

WO 2005/098669 A1



Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.